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Do not enter
In the Claims

Cancel Claim 13 and amend Claims 1-9, 11, and 14-15, as indicated below:

52
sub 1

1 1. (Twice Amended) A method for installing a cushion and an
2 inflator/horn assembly into a cover having a cover cavity
3 therein for the cushion using only a single reciprocatively
4 movable piston, said method comprising the steps of:
5 attaching the cushion to a spacing element which is
6 receivable within the cover cavity and which is positioned
7 relative to an end of the piston;
8 securing the cover in a preferred orientation at one
9 end of a tubular housing;
10 compacting the cushion into the cover cavity and
11 around the spacing element to define a sleeve cavity for the
12 inflator/horn assembly by cycling the piston through one
13 reciprocating movement cycle within the tubular housing; and
14 removing the spacing element from said cushion, .
15 thereby exposing the sleeve cavity within the compacted
16 cushion for the inflator/horn assembly.

sub 2

1 2. (Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said step of
2 compacting further includes forming the sleeve cavity such
3 that a predetermined thickness of cushion is disposed between
4 the sleeve cavity and the cover such that a predetermined
5 amount of force applied to the cover will activate the horn.

sub 3
sub 2

1 3. (Amended) The method of claim 1, further including the
2 step of inserting a retaining ring into a cushion such that
3 said step of attaching the cushion to the spacing element is
4 further defined by attaching said retaining ring to the
5 spacing element.

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4. (Amended) The method of claim 1, further including a base
to which the cover is secured, and wherein the tubular housing
includes an upper and lower platform, and wherein said
compacting step is further defined by using the interior of
the tubular housing as a guide for guiding the cushion into
the cover cavity as the piston moves through the tubular
housing.

5. (Amended) The method of claim 4, wherein the tubular
housing is movable between an open position and a closed
position relative to the base, wherein said step of securing
the cushion to the spacing element is further defined by
securing the spacing element to the piston and further
including the steps of raising the piston within the tubular
housing toward the upper platform, lowering the lower platform
of the housing onto the base to secure the cover, and driving
the piston within the housing to compact the cushion into the
cover cavity of the cover.

6. (Twice Amended) An assembly for assembling a cushion to a
cover, said assembly comprising;
a base for supporting the cover;
a housing defining a generally hollow housing
cavity;
an air bag housing slidably disposed within said
housing cavity; and
piston means comprising a single reciprocatively
movable element, for moving the air bag in an up stroke and
down stroke within the cavity in a single cycle and for
folding the air bag into the cover at the end of the down
stroke.

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1 7. (Amended) An assembly as in claim 5, wherein the tubular
2 housing is shaped to form the outer periphery of said
3 compacted cushion.

1 8. (Amended) An assembly as in claim 5, wherein the spacing
2 element includes an outer periphery shaped to form the sleeve
3 cavity within the cushion.

1 9. (Amended) An assembly as in claim 5, wherein said cushion
2 further includes a retaining ring to attach said cushion to
3 said spacing element.

1 11. (Twice Amended) A method for installing a cushion into an
2 interior cavity of a cover using one reciprocatively movable
3 piston, said method comprising the steps of;
4 forming a cushion subassembly and attaching same to
5 the piston, the subassembly including a cushion housing and
6 the cushion;
7 positioning the cover apart from the piston;
8 moving the piston and the attached cushion assembly
9 along a fixed tube in a first direction away from the cover to
10 cause the cushion to expand as it rubs against the inner sides
11 of the tube;
12 moving the piston toward the cover to press the
13 cushion into the cover, thereby folding same and positioning
14 the housing atop the now folded cushion within the interior of
15 the cover.

1 14. (Amended) The assembly as defined in Claim 6 wherein the
2 piston means includes a mock inflator movable with the piston
3 and locatable within a determinable volume within the cover

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4 cavity to prevent the air bag from being folded within this
5 volume.

1 15. (Amended) A method for installing a cushion into a cavity
2 of a cover using one reciprocatively movable piston, said
3 method comprising the steps of:

4 a) providing a hollow folding tube;

5 b) placing the piston near a determinable location in
6 the folding tube;

7 c) attaching an air bag to an air bag housing sized to
8 fit into the cover cavity;

9 d) securing the air bag housing to the piston;

10 e) withdrawing the piston up the folding tube to at
11 least partially elongate the air bag;

12 f) positioning the cover proximate an open end of the
13 folding tube with the cover cavity facing the open end; and

14 g) urging the piston, housing and air bag toward and
15 into the cover cavity until the air bag fills the cover cavity
16 and the housing is placed on the cover.

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